

## EPA-MPCA Region 5 Meeting

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

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# Agenda

- Introductions
- Staffing updates
- 1995 Enforcement Deferral Pilot Project
- MPCA PFAS Coordination
- Infrastructure bill and MN sites
- Site specific discussions

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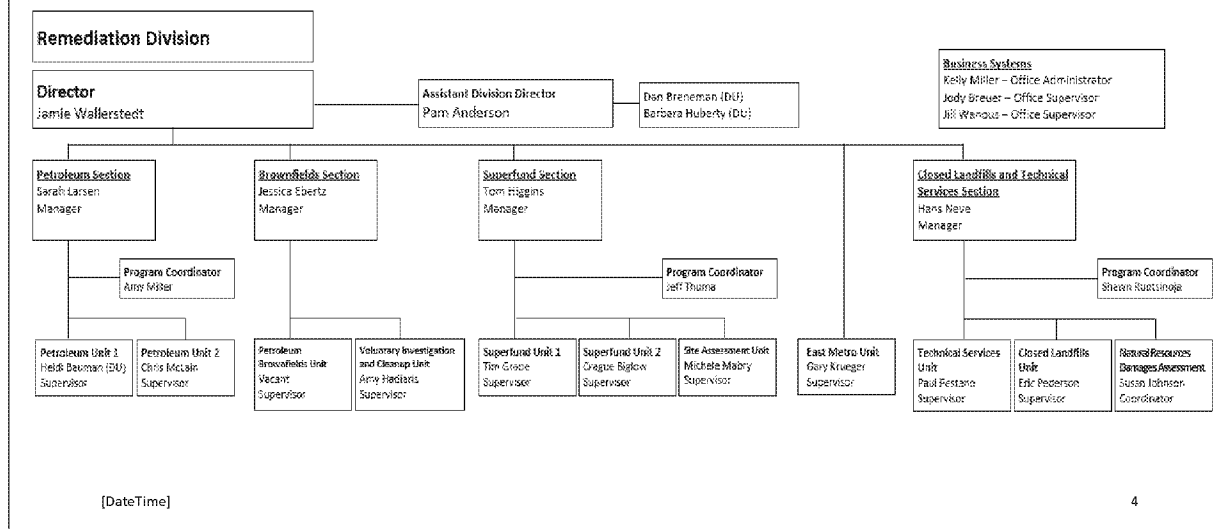
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## Introductions and Staffing Updates

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# Staffing updates – MPCA Remediation Division



# Staffing updates – MPCA Superfund

\*Student worker – Vacant  
DU – Duluth Office

**Remediation Division**  
Superfund Section  
Tom Higgins, Manager

**Program Coordinator**  
Jeff Thuma

**Superfund Unit 1**  
Tim Grape  
Supervisor

**Superfund Unit 2**  
Crague Biglow  
Supervisor

**Site Assessment Unit**  
Michele Mabry  
Supervisor

**Staff:**  
Brian Davis  
Lindsay Egge  
Jennifer Jevnisek  
Thomas Reppe  
Ashley Sapon  
Madison Scheer  
Yodit Sheldo  
Felicia Williamson  
Matthias Wolf

**Staff:**  
Daniel Cervin (DU)  
Mark Elliot (DU)  
Pamela Foster (DU)  
Michael Ginsbach  
Jennifer Haas  
Brigitte Hay  
LaRae Lehto (DU)  
Brad Leick (DU)  
Steve Schoff  
Hydro 2 Vacancy

**Staff:**  
Drew Bahi  
Sondra Campbell  
Christopher Gosciniak  
Kathryn Grant  
Doree Husnik  
Lauren Larkin  
Kevin Sikkila (DU)  
Zachary Skelly  
Gregory Small

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# 1995 EPA-MPCA Pilot Deferral

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## 1995 Enforcement Deferral Pilot Project

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1995 Enforcement Deferral Pilot Project  
(Bold = active, italics = proposed removal from pilot)

Site Name

Regulatory Lead (EPA or MPCA)

Site Status

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## 1995 Enforcement Deferral Pilot Project

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# PFAS Coordination

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Last year the Blueprint was launched – it’s the agency’s action plan for PFAS and answers the what and the why - what is PFAS and why do we need to monitor/sample/identify PFAS throughout the state is centered around 3 strategies: prevent, manage and clean-up. The remediation sector is responsible for the third strategy.

That brings us to the monitoring plan – this is also an agency wide document which answers the where and when. Where will we sample for PFAS and when will sampling be necessary. The draft monitoring plan was launched in November of last year. The public comment period was open until last month and we’re currently updating the monitoring plan based on the inputs we received.

The final question is the how à this will be answered by the guidance document. Moreover, it will be a “how” that’s specific to the Remediation program.

## MPCA PFAS Updates

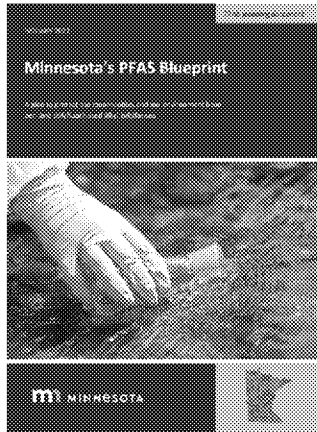
- PFAS Blueprint – February 2021
  - Strategic coordinated approach to protect MN communities from PFAS
  - Immediate, short- and long-term strategies that state agencies, the Minnesota Legislature, industries, and local governments should consider to prevent, manage, and clean up PFAS contamination
  - **MERLA contains statutory framework to begin acting on PFAS**
- PFAS Monitoring Plan – March 2022
  - Appendix E – Remediation Division
  - Superfund incorporated PFAS into active sites / scopes beginning in state FY23
- PFAS Guidance Development – Fall 2023
  - Stakeholder Advisory Group

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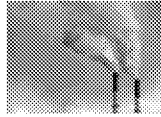
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## Background – PFAS Prioritization

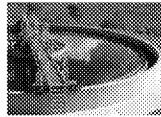
### Strategies for Addressing PFAS in Minnesota:



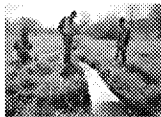
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**Prevent** → reduce PFAS exposure and need for treatment



**Manage** → monitor PFAS presence in facilities (e.g., landfills, WWTPs)

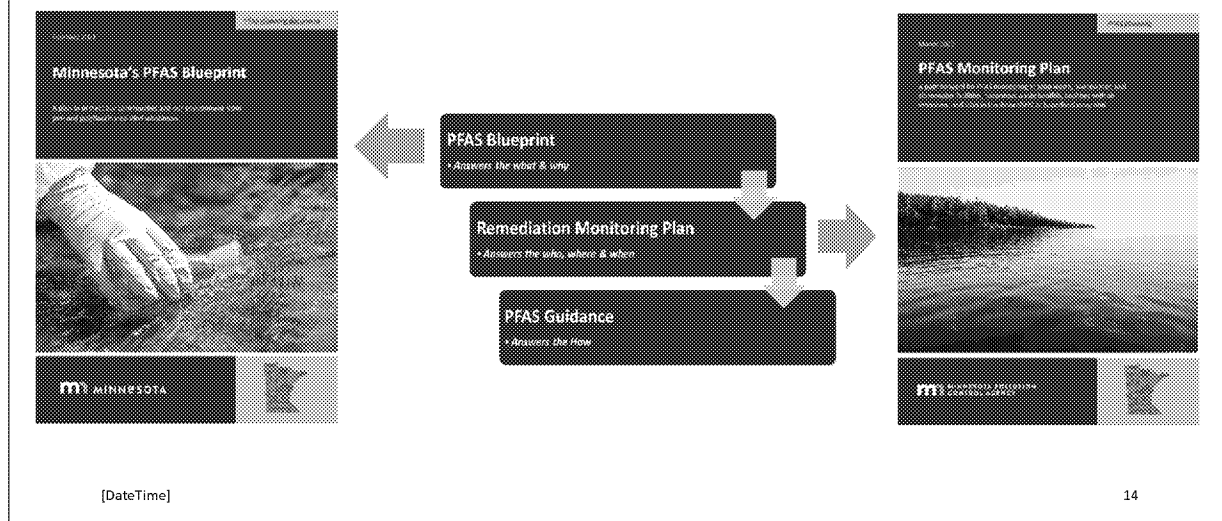


**Clean-up** → remediate contaminated sites  
(Lead: Remediation sector)  
*Prioritize sites for investigation using existing and emerging data*

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The PFAS Blueprint was launched in early 2021 and represents an opportunity for Minnesota to take stock of the current PFAS-related activities as well as identify both gaps and opportunities. There are 10 issue papers centered around three main strategies – the prevention, management and remediation of PFAS in the environment. The Remediation Division is listed as the lead agency for the third strategy and it expected that the vetted protocol will be used to assist in identifying investigating and remediating potential PFAS sources throughout the state.

## Resources - Remediation Monitoring Plan



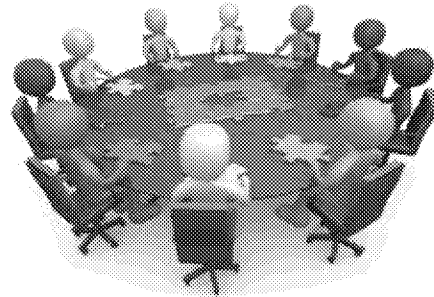
We'd like data to help us identify where we should collect data! The expectation is that we'll be able to use some of the available data to support us as we fine tune the monitoring requirements. I think you're all familiar with the PFAS blueprint – it's the agency's action plan for PFAS – I'd say that it answers the what and why – what is PFAS and why do we need to monitor/sample/identify PFAS throughout the state. PFAS Blueprint (an action plan for the state) and the Monitoring Plan (a guide for decision-making). The blueprint is an opportunity for Minnesota to take stock of the current PFAS-related activities as well as identify both gaps and opportunities. The PFAS Blueprint is centered around three main strategies – the prevention, management and remediation of PFAS in the environment. The Remediation Division is listed as the lead agency for the third strategy and it expected that the vetted protocol will be used to assist in identifying investigating and remediating potential PFAS sources throughout the state.

Just a reminder that the blueprint is centered around 3 strategies : prevent, manage and clean-up. The remediation sector is responsible for the third strategy. That brings us to the monitoring plan – this is also an agency wide document which answers the where and when.

## PFAS Stakeholder Advisory Group

PFAS Stakeholder group is made up of the following sector representatives:

- Environmental consultants (MPCA, industry/RPs, Brownfields)
- Legal
- Brownfields
- Municipal (counties, cities)
- Academia
- Analytical laboratory
- Banks/Lenders
- MPCA and MDH program staff



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## Stakeholder Group – Goals & Objectives

### Primary Objective

Develop clear, concise, predictable and prescriptive PFAS guidance for the remediation division

### Purpose

Ensure all sectors engaged in addressing PFAS are represented and providing feedback on the guidance  
Transparency in the process

### Expectations for Stakeholder members

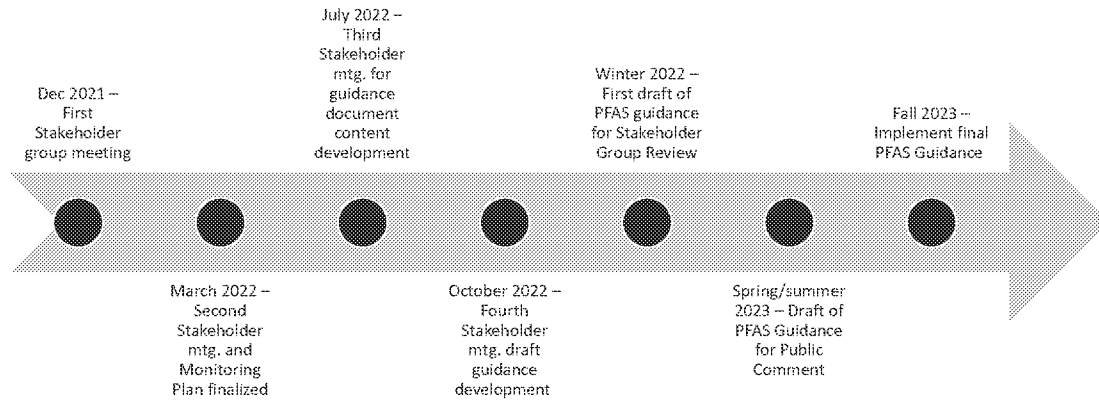
Conduct outreach to their sectors with updates on guidance progress  
transmit feedback from their sector back to the stakeholder group

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## PFAS Guidance Development Timeline



~Quarterly Stakeholder group meetings with potential for sub-groups to develop specific guidance sections

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## EPA PFAS Updates

- Timeline updates for hazardous substances designation rule under CERCLA?
  - 102a designation versus amending hazardous substance 'lists' under 101(14)?
- Timeline updates on draft MCL's / MCLG's?
- What is EPA Superfund's plan for using draft MCLs? Continued use of the regional screening values in the absence of state promulgated values?
- Will EPA consider re-opening of RODs to facilitate PFAS investigative needs? If so, how will these evaluations be structured? Will EPA be making determinations or can the State provide input?
- Will EPA Removals be available to respond at NPL sites in MN exceeding drinking water standards (either draft MCLs when released or in excess of state promulgated standards)?
- How will revenues from the Superfund Tax be directed to the regions/states for use? (Date/Time) How will the tax revenue's impact EPA's general appropriations from Congress?<sub>18</sub>

# Infrastructure Bill

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## Site Specific Discussions

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## MN NPL site specific discussions

- South Andover (1,4 DX & PFAS - Red Oaks Neighborhood Drinking Water Impacts)

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## Red Oaks neighborhood, Andover

Eric Pederson | Supervisor, Closed Landfill Program

October 26, 2022

The Red Oaks neighborhood in Andover, MN outlined in blue with WDE landfill outlined in yellow.

#### Investigation

- 7/1/2021 1,4-dioxane result of 1.1 ppb at single home
- Investigation expands to W and S
- 1,4-dioxane detected in SE of neighborhood, 3,000 ppb
- PFAS detected at most homes

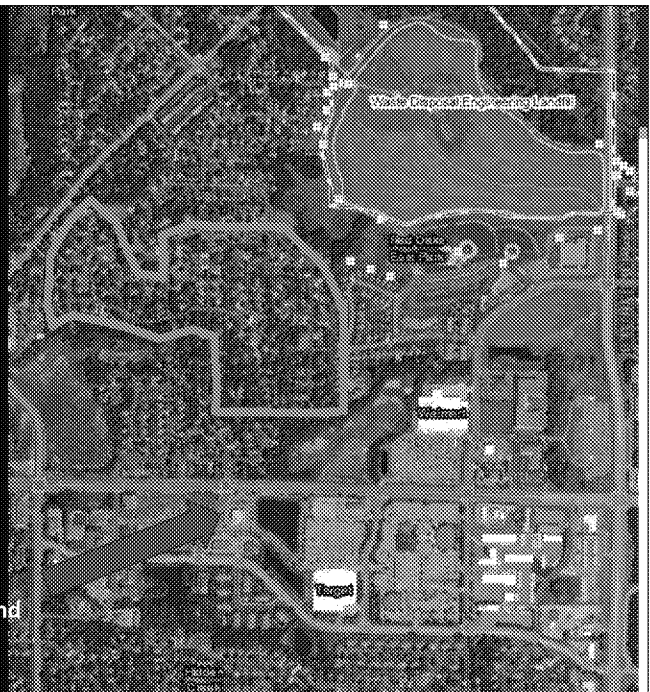
#### Communications

- 2 public meetings
- 2 office hours sessions
- Many newsletter articles
- Website updates
- Too many citizen calls to count

#### Citizen Concerns

- Health of residents and their families
- Property value decrease
- Costs of municipal water
- Losing private wells
- Bottled water
- Sampling

**The South Andover Superfund Site to the South of Bunker Lake Boulevard.**





# 1,4-dioxane results as compared to 1.0 ppb HBV



## Red Oaks in the Press

There have been multiple interviews of concerned citizens...

LOCAL NEWS

### MPCA finds unsafe drinking water in 3 more homes in Andover

MINNESOTA

BY WCCO STAFF

JUNE 9, 2022 / 4:37 PM / CBS MINNESOTA

"The MPCA just hasn't done a whole lot, not anymore than a year ago," she said. "We're at a standstill."

"I kind of *knew* this would happen," she said. "You fall prey to their schedules. Politicians sound like they take it seriously, but then they don't really do any work for it. They told us we'd get water this year. With any luck, we'll get water next year."

"It's old. It's really old. It's beyond frustrating," said [a 4th-grade parent \(P\)](#) who has lived in the neighborhood for 36 years. "We're all sick of hauling around these 40-pound jugs all the time."

### A year later, some Andover residents still waiting for solution to polluted drinking wells

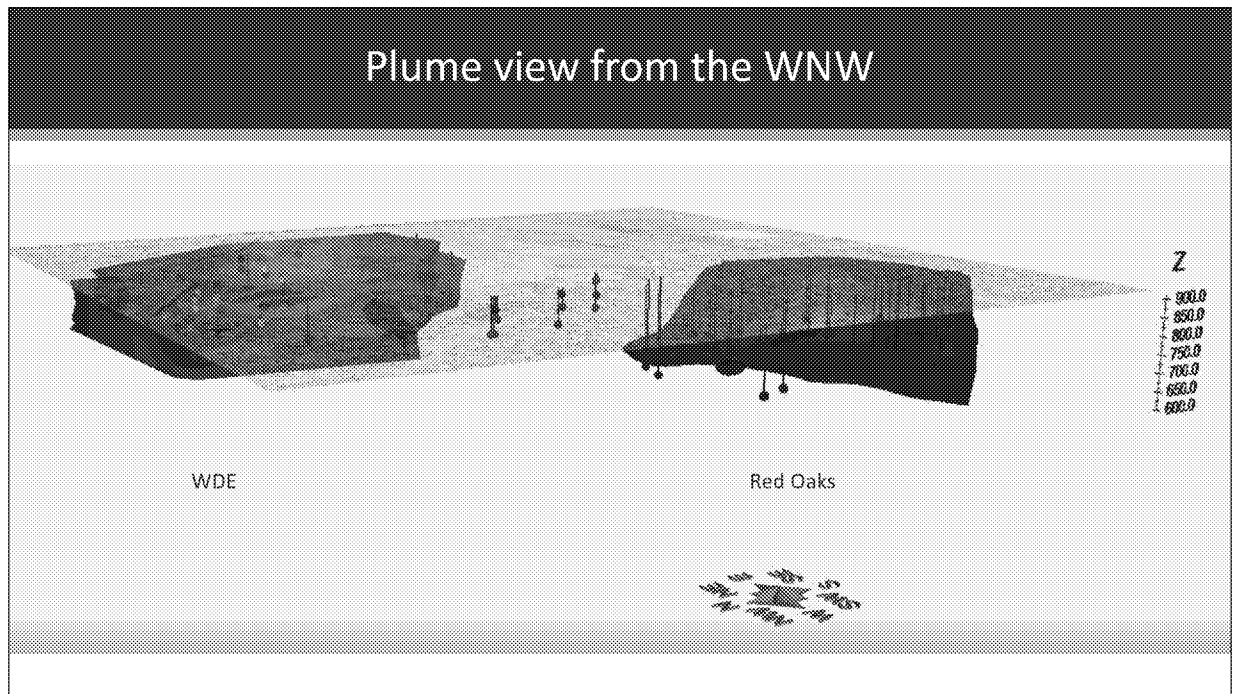
There are no signs that more than 50 Anoka County homeowners will be able to use their faucets anytime soon.

By Greg Stanley Star Tribune

JULY 14, 2022 / 1:52 PM

[View Comments](#)

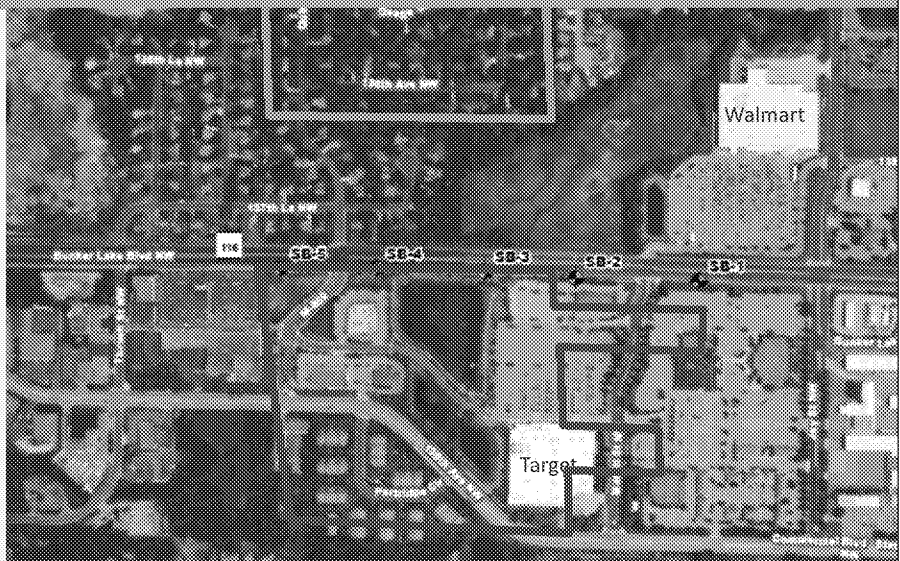
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Show the lack of a link between the two 1-4 dioxane plumes

## Bunker Lake Blvd Sample Points

- Groundwater flow direction is North according to some historical documents
- SB-2 1,4-dioxane result 840ppb in deep sample
- Low amounts 1,4 dioxane shallow and medium samples at SB-2 and deep sample at SB-3
- PFOS and PFOA exceed drinking water criteria at SB1, 2, 3, and 4 at shallow and mid-depths
- South Andover NPL Site never tested for either 1,4 dioxane or PFAS



## Red Oaks Needs...

- Source Investigation
- Municipal Water
  - \$12.1 Million Needed
- Future Sampling
  - PFAS expansion to the Western edge of Red Oaks and continuing West
  - 1,4-dioxane and PFAS in South Andover SF Site

## Waite Park Site

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## Waite Park Wells

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## Waite Park Wells

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## Waite Park Site

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## SE Hennepin/General Mills Sites

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## FMC/NIROP Sites

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## Arrowhead Refinery Site

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## Arrowhead Refinery Site

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## Highway 100/Co. Rd. 3 Site

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## Highway 100/Co. Rd. 3 Site

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## Koppers Coke Site

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## MPCA Superfund Leadership Team

- Jamie Wallerstedt | Remediation Division Director
- Tom Higgins | Superfund Section Manager
- Crague Biglow | Superfund Supervisor / SLRAOC
- Tim Grape | Superfund Supervisor
- Michele Mabry | Site Assessment Supervisor
- Jeff Thuma | Program Administrator & Contract Manager

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